



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/2001/61
29 December 2000

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Fifty-seventh session
Item 11 (d) of the provisional agenda

CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE QUESTIONS
OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY, ADMINISTRATION
OF JUSTICE, IMPUNITY

The right to restitution, compensation and rehabilitation for victims
of grave violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Note by the secretariat

1. At its fifty-sixth session, the Commission on Human Rights adopted resolution 2000/41, entitled "The right to restitution, compensation and rehabilitation for victims of grave violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms".
2. In paragraph 2 of the resolution, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to circulate to all Member States the text of the "Basic principles and guidelines on the right to a remedy and reparation for victims of violations of international human rights and humanitarian law", annexed to the final report of the independent expert (E/CN.4/2000/62) and to request that they send their comments thereon to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
3. In paragraph 3, the Commission requested the High Commissioner to hold a consultative meeting in Geneva for all interested Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, using available resources, with a view to finalizing the principles and guidelines on the basis of the comments submitted.

4. Accordingly, a note verbale inviting all Member States to submit their comments on the basic principles and guidelines annexed to the report of the independent expert was sent out on 31 August 2000. As at 20 November 2000, replies have been received from six States. These replies may be consulted by approaching the secretariat.

5. The Office of the High Commissioner believes that, in order to ensure that the consultative meeting produces good results, it is important to have as many comments on the basic principles and guidelines as possible. Therefore, on 23 November 2000, the secretariat has sent out a second note verbale inviting those Member States which have not yet submitted their comments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, to do so at their earliest convenience.

6. Any additional information on this matter will be brought to the attention of the Commission on Human Rights in an addendum to the present document.
